

out needing" it, who wish to avoid war without fearing it. In war, they will kill some of us; we shall destroy all of them. Let them then continue quiet at home, take care of their women and children, and remove from among* them the agents of any nation persuading them to war, and let them declare to us explicitly and categorically that they will do this; in which case they will have nothing to fear from the preparations we are now unwillingly making¹ to secure our own safety. (To the Secretary of War. 1807. C V., 176.)

INDUSTRY.—It is your future happiness which interests me, and nothing can contribute more to¹ it (moral rectitude always excepted) than the contracting a habit of industry and activity. Of all the cankers of human happiness none corrodes with so silent yet so baleful an influence as indolence. Body and mind both unemployed, our being becomes a burthen, and every object about us loathsome, even the dearest. Idleness begets *ennui*, *ennui* the hypochondriac, and that a diseased body. No' laborious person was ever yet hysterical. Exercise and application produce order in our affairs, health of body and cheerfulness of mind, and these make us precious to our friends. It is while we are young that the habit of industry is formed. If not then, it never is afterwards. The future of our lives, therefore, depends on employing well the short period of youth. If at any moment, my dear, you catch yourself in idleness, start from it as you would from the precipice of a gulf. (To Martha Jefferson, 1787. F. IV., 372.)

INDUSTRY.—A mind always employed is always happy. This is the true secret, the grand recipe for felicity. The idle are only the wretched. In a world which furnishes so many employments which are useful, SO' many which are amusing, it is our own fault if we ever know what *ennui* is, or if we are ever driven to the miserable resources of gaming, which corrupts our dispositions, and teaches us a habit of hostility against all mankind. (To Martha Jefferson, 1787. F. IV., 389.)'

INHERITANCES.—Thomas Jefferson is of the opinion that the incompetence of the general government to legislate on the subject of inheritances is a reason the more against the Presi-